

Tidy Towns Competition 2017

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glenbeigh**

Ref: **337**

County: **Kerry**

Mark: **300**

Category: **A**

Date(s): **21/06/2017**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2016	Mark Awarded 2017
Community Involvement & Planning	60	42	44
Built Environment and Streetscape	50	38	40
Landscaping and Open Spaces	50	41	43
Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities	50	27	29
Sustainable Waste and Resource Management	50	21	21
Tidiness and Litter Control	90	55	55
Residential Streets & Housing Areas	50	33	33
Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes	50	35	35
TOTAL MARK	450	292	300

Community Involvement & Planning / Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail & Pleanáil:

Glenbeigh is welcome to the 2017 SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition: thank you for your submission with map and attachments. It would be helpful if the map was colour-coded and linked numerically to the appropriate headings in the entry form. the number of volunteers available for Tidy Towns work is heartening as are the benefits that have accrued to the community from 23 years participation in the competition, congratulations, it is great to have ye on board. The Tidy Towns is well organised in Glenbeigh if its network of partners is anything to go by (and it is of course) well done also on the involvement of the school children. Hopefully your multi-annual Tidy Towns Plan will follow next year. Well done on Glenbeigh's success in the Pride of Place Competition.

Built Environment and Streetscape / An Timpeallacht Thógtha agus Sráid-dreacha:

The Olde Glenbeigh Hotel looks wonderful with its beautiful white washed facade and colourful flower displays together with good signage and roadside boundary. Well done to Centra for a nice presentation and the notice for customer toilets / convenience; signage for "Toilets This Way " at the door of the Tower Bar and Restaurant is very welcoming. The majority of buildings enjoy an excellent presentation with good signage and enhance their streetscape overall. The Traditional Fish and Chip Shop is the best presented seen by your adjudicator anywhere in the country! Saint James Catholic Church and grounds together with car parking to its roadside boundary is a wonderful landmark feature of the village. the overall impression of the village centre is one of a very pleasant built environment with an attractive streetscape. Your adjudicator wishes you every success in your submission of the Rossbeigh Tower Replica for the Heritage Award, this really is a most impressive achievement! Well done also on the completion of so many other projects for this year's competition, it has been a busy year in Glenbeigh.

Landscaping and Open Spaces / Tírdhreachú agus Spásanna Oscailte:

Beautifully landscaped areas throughout Glenbeigh and on approach roads are too numerous to appraise individually here however collectively they enhance the overall visual amenity of the village significantly, we are indebted to those responsible. Landscaping around heritage features is appropriate and complements these in a sensitive way. Green areas are nicely managed and are an excellent introduction to the village. Container flower displays were admired at numerous locations for their colour and profusion. It is good to note that many have been recycled. The presentation of hard landscaping is equally good with areas power washed effectively. It is clear from your entry that planting for year-round interest and colour is a feature in Glenbeigh. No doubt the requirements of wildlife is catered for when choosing plants in order to support bio-diversity.

Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities / Fiadhúlra, Gnáthóga agus Taitneamhachtaí Nádurtha:

The Behy River Walk features a species identification panel which is helpful and enriches the walkers experience; the riverbed looked clean during the adjudication period. Many mature and stately trees in Glenbeigh enhance their environs. We note work in progress in the eradication of Japanese Knotweed favourably and urge you to contain Montebretia as it is highly invasive also (not as damaging as other invasive plants) but it will undermine native species if allowed to spread unchecked. The Bat Conservation project is laudable and the Bat Walk sounds like fun! The Fairy Forest is charming! We wish you success in having the Sli Na Slainte walk endorsed by the Irish Heart Foundation. Information panels on Glenbeigh's SPA's along the Loop Walks is invaluable. Glenbeigh/Glencar GAA sports facility is beautifully managed and presented.

Sustainable Waste and Resource Management / Bainistiú Acmhainní agus Dramhaíola Inbhuanaithe:

The recycling point is very beautiful with its numerous colourful flower displays and well managed environs. The high level of community awareness of waste issues is evident in the list of initiatives in place in Glenbeigh in all areas of sustainable waste and resource management. Well done to the schools and teachers on participation and success in the Green Flags Programme. The school allotments are excellent for teaching valuable life skills as well as their contribution to sustainable living.

Tidiness and Litter Control / Slachtmhaireacht agus Rialú Bruscair:

Litter control is strong in Glenbeigh and none was noted during adjudication; graffiti and weed control was good too. Tidiness was not an issue either and the village looked wonderful. Participation in weekly and annual clean-ups by residents including of course schools and pupils appears to have diminished the litter problem significantly. Litter should be analysed to determine its source, type, age, frequency and location in order to formulate an appropriate strategy which ultimately will cut down on the number of clean-ups necessary. Presumably collected litter is segregated for recycling. It is a pleasure to note that overhead service cables are not visually obtrusive within the village centre and do not have an untidy and cluttered impact.

Residential Streets & Housing Areas / Sráideanna Cónaithe & Ceantair Tithíochta:

Avenue Drive is nicely landscaped at its entrance and well maintained over all; Falvey's Mobile Home Park has a neat appearance as does O'Connors. Residential developments are nicely presented in most instances and Glencastle on the Caherciveen road looks particularly well in respect of its landscaping, and of course it's scenic views. The Clearwater estate is another attractive estate and apartment developments are also nicely managed. It is laudable that two residents from each estate take on the responsibility for litter and weed control in their estate. The strong working relationship between resident associations and the Tidy Towns committee is evident in the appearance of their respective estates. It is good to note the emphasis on the maintenance and presentation of roadside boundary walls.

Approach Roads, Streets & Lanes / Bóithre Isteach, Sráideanna & Lánaí:

The entrance to Glenbeigh from the Killorglin road is wonderful with its visually appealing landscaping name plate and name stone. The same can be said for the entrance from the Cahersiveen Road. Well done on the footpath initiative from Behy Bridge to the picnic area on the Rossbeigh Road and we anticipate further cycling and pedestrian facilities in the years to come. It is good to note your pro-active approach regarding car-parking and safety issues for pedestrians. Perhaps the installation of solar powered panels on approach roads informing drivers they are travelling in excess of the speed limit might work as a traffic calming measure. Road surfaces are reasonably good overall; the car park at the GAA grounds is nicely landscaped and surfaced; street furniture is attractive and enjoys good maintenance.

Concluding Remarks:

Glenbeigh community's heritage is beautifully presented in sculpture and other media. The visitor gets the impression of an outward looking and pro-active community.